


REMARKS

Applicants hereby provisionally elect the subject matter of Group II, Claims 15-30 and 41-47, as characterized by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that in the Preliminary Amendment dated August 26, 2003, claims 1-14, 31-37, 39-40 and 47-50 were cancelled, and claims 51-60 were added. Claims 15, 53 and 57 are independent.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15-30, 38, 41-46 and 51-60 are presented for initial consideration by the Examiner on the merits.

If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,


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